

John J. Werner
1851 - 1937

NO
PHOTO
available

Mr. Werner was born in Frysburg, Pennsylvania. He moved to Miami County Kansas in 1882 to search for oil. On July 24, he discovered natural gas while drilling on the Westfall Farm seven miles east of Paola. Mr. Werner became the founding director of the Paola Gas Company. On March 3, 1886, the company built a natural gas pipeline into town making Paola the first town in Kansas to use natural gas commercially. Mr. Werner was considered a pioneer in drilling techniques.